



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of :

Naoto MIWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1617

Serial No.: 09/787,394

Examiner: Shahnam J. Sharareh

Filed: March 19, 2001

For: NEAR INFRARED FLUORESCENT CONTRAST AGENT AND
FLUORESCENCE IMAGING

REPLY

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated December 18, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

APR 22 2003

RECEIVED

#10/B
4/25/03
re